

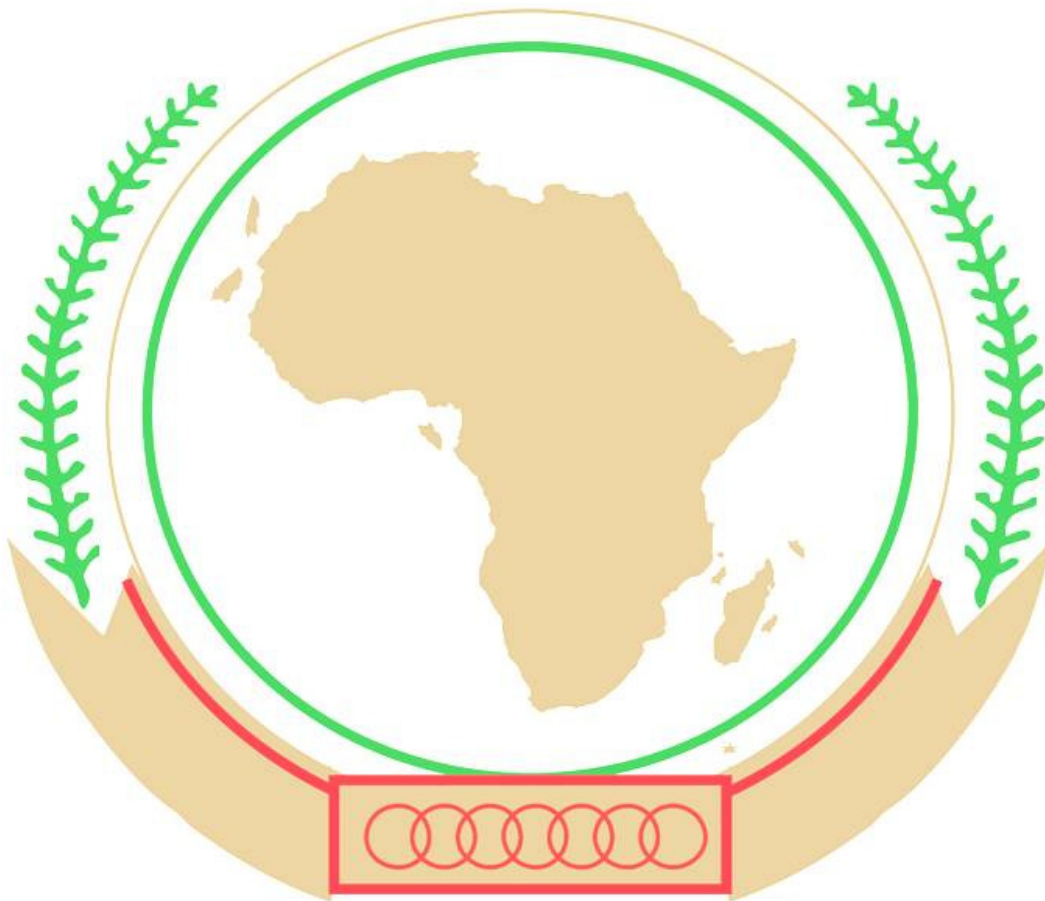
DECISION ON THE SITUATION IN PALESTINE AND THE MIDDLE EAST
Doc.EX.CL/524(XV)

The Executive Council,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report on the Situation in Palestine and the Middle East, and **RECALLS** all resolutions and decisions adopted by the OAU/AU on the Situation in Palestine and the Middle East;
2. **REITERATES** its full support for the legitimate struggle of the Palestinian people, under the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), their sole and legitimate representative against the Israeli Occupation, to obtain their inalienable national rights, including their right to self-determination, return to their homeland and property, and to live in peace and stability in an Independent Palestinian State with Al-Quds Al-sharif (Jerusalem) as its capital, in accordance with the principle of International Law, all pertinent United Nations (UN) Resolutions, particularly Resolution 194, which calls for the return of refugees to their homeland and properties, and the resolutions and decisions of the OAU/AU;
3. **REAFFIRMS** its full support for a peaceful solution of the Arab-Israeli conflict on the basis of the principles of the International Law and all relevant resolutions, and **CALLS UPON** Israel to end its occupation of the Palestinian and Arab territories;
4. **STRESSES** the need for the UN Security Council to shoulder its responsibilities under the UN Charter, and **CALLS ON** it to exercise its role in maintaining International peace and security in order to achieve a comprehensive, just, and lasting peace;
5. **EXPRESSES** its serious concern at the statement made by the new Israeli administration rejecting the creation of an independent Palestinian State with Jerusalem as its capital an end to settlements in the Palestinian territories and **CALLS UPON** the Israeli Government to fulfil its obligations and to move forward in the peace process on the basis of the resolutions on international legitimacy, agreements signed and the principle of land for peace;
6. **STRONGLY CONDEMNS** the brutal Israeli practices and repressive measures against Palestinian citizens in the Occupied Palestinian territories, including Jerusalem, and **CALLS ON** Israel to stop these serious violations immediately, and on the International Community to exert pressure on Israel accordingly;
7. **EXPRESSES CONCERN OVER** the war crimes and violations of International Law and International Humanitarian Law in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, and **CALLS UPON** the international community to prosecute those responsible for these crimes and bring them to international courts and tribunals;

8. **URGES** Israel to accept the principle of negotiations with the Palestinian side in order to find a peaceful, comprehensive, just and lasting solution to the ongoing conflict in the Middle East;
9. **AFFIRMS** that the Palestine Liberation Organization is a full partner in the peace process; and **CALLS UPON** Israel to accept the international efforts aimed at establishing the Independent Palestinian State with Al-Quds Al-Sharif (Jerusalem) as its capital, and to respond to the demands of the international community;
10. **EXPRESSES** its full support for the tireless efforts aimed at putting an end to the division in Palestinian ranks, and to the strengthening of the Palestinian national unity, in order to ensure the geographical and political unity of the Palestinian territories;
11. **FURTHER EXPRESSES** its deep appreciation for the relentless efforts made by the Palestinian leadership for the achievement of lasting peace between all parties;
12. **WELCOMES** the statements by the Government of the United States of America demanding that the Israeli Government halts the illegal settlement activities in the Occupied Palestinian Territories;
13. **URGES** the Israeli authorities to put an end to unilateral policies and procedures imposing a *fait accompli* on the ground, including the immediate cessation of all settlement activities, the elimination of the Apartheid Wall, and the preservation of the status of Jerusalem as well as of Islamic and Christian holy places; and **CALLS UPON** Israel to stop its excavations around and under Al-Aqsa Mosque and the demolition of houses in and around the city of AL-Quds (Jerusalem), which aims to expel the indigenous population of the city;
14. **EXPRESSES DEEP CONCERN** over the worsening humanitarian situation and increasing sanitary and economic deterioration in the Occupied Palestinian Territories, due to the constant siege, daily ongoing Israeli invasions, restrictions on the movement of persons and constant closures and blockades of the Palestinian commercial crossing points with neighbouring countries; and **URGES** the Israeli authorities to immediately and without delay remove all blocked and to re-open all crossing points;
15. **EXPRESSES ITS GRAVE CONCERN** over the deterioration of the living and health conditions of Palestinian prisoners and detainees in Israeli Jails; **CONDEMNS** all inhuman Israeli practices against prisoners and detainees; and **URGES** the Israeli Government to release all prisoners and captives from the jails of the Israeli Occupation Authorities;

16. **FURTHER CALLS UPON** the government of Israel to put an end to its occupation of all Arab lands occupied since 1967, including the Syrian and Lebanese territories, and to abide by the relevant UN Security Council Resolutions, particularly Resolutions 242 and 338, the Madrid Declaration, the Land for Peace Principle, the Arab Peace Initiative and the Road Map, in order to reach a just, comprehensive, lasting and peaceful solution to the Arab-Israeli Conflict.



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